

In the Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 3,~~ A method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated handwriting, comprising the steps of:

accessing a website having a user interface;

entering a text message through the user interface;

creating a graphic image of simulated handwriting that corresponds to the text message;

and

specifying one or more formatting parameters;

wherein the specifying step includes choosing a pen type; and

wherein the pen types include ballpoint, felt-tip and calligraphic.]

5. (currently amended) ~~The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 2,~~ A method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated handwriting, comprising the steps of:

accessing a website having a user interface;

entering a text message through the user interface;

creating a graphic image of simulated handwriting that corresponds to the text message;

and

specifying one or more formatting parameters;

wherein the specifying step includes choosing a degree of messiness.

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Claim 6 (canceled)

7. (currently amended) ~~The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 2,~~ A method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated handwriting, comprising the steps of:

accessing a website having a user interface;

entering a text message through the user interface;

creating a graphic image of simulated handwriting that corresponds to the text message;
and
specifying one or more formatting parameters;
wherein the specifying step includes choosing between a wandering text baseline and a straight text baseline.

Claim 8 (canceled)

9. (currently amended) ~~The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 8;~~ A method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated handwriting, comprising the steps of:

accessing a website having a user interface;
entering a text message through the user interface;
creating a graphic image of simulated handwriting that corresponds to the text message;
and
specifying one or more formatting parameters;
wherein the specifying step includes choosing a handwriting script; and
wherein the creating step includes:
accessing a database containing the chosen handwriting script;
selecting letter shapes from the handwriting script database that correspond to the text message;
joining the letters shapes;
drawing the strokes to create the graphic image.

10. (original) The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 9, wherein the graphic image is a high-resolution image.

11. (original) The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 10, further comprising the step of reducing the high-resolution image to a more compact low-resolution image through an anti-aliasing procedure.

12. (original) The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 11, further comprising the step of reviewing the low-resolution image.

13. (original) The method for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated human handwriting of claim 12, further comprising the step of sending the low-resolution image to a recipient.

Claims 14-18 (cancelled).

A1 19. (new) A system for generating an electronic mail message containing simulated handwriting, the system comprising:

an input to receive a text message from a user over a network;

means for converting the text message into the electronic mail message, the means for converting including means for selecting letter shapes that correspond to the text message and means for joining the letter shapes to create the text message; and

an output to transmit the electronic mail message to the user.
